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[Profile of a Filibustered Nominee: Justice Janice Rogers Brown](#)

In The Press

[“Quotable fun on Cornyn’s Web site: Interactive item invites browsers to guess which senators said what,” Samantha Levine, Houston Chronicle, 5/1/05](#)

Myth-Fact

MYTH: The Framers intended the “advice and consent” clause to give the Senate the right to help the President select judicial nominees.

FACT: The Framers made it clear that under the advice and consent clause, the Senate may only “ratify or reject” the President’s nominees and has no power to “choose” nominees.

In Federalist No. 66, Alexander Hamilton assured the American people that the advice and consent clause would not concentrate too much power in the Senate: “It will be the office of the president to nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Senate to appoint. There will of course be no execution of choice on the part of the Senate. They may defeat one choice of the executive, and oblige him to make another; but they cannot themselves choose—they can only ratify or reject the choice, of the president.”

Profile of a Filibustered Nominee: Justice Janice Rogers Brown

- Justice Brown currently serves as an **Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court, a position she has held since May 1996.** Prior to her appointment and confirmation to that court, Justice Brown served from 1994-96 on an intermediate state appellate court.

- Justice Brown is the **first African-American woman to serve on California's highest court, and was retained with 76 percent of the statewide vote in her last election.**
- The daughter of sharecroppers, Justice Brown was born in Greenville, Alabama in 1949. During her childhood, she attended segregated schools, and came of age in the midst of Jim Crow policies in the South.
- Justice Brown's family moved to Sacramento, California when Justice Brown was in her teens, and she later received her **B.A. in Economics from California State in Sacramento in 1974, and her J.D. from the UCLA School of Law in 1977.**
- Justice Brown has received honorary law degrees from Pepperdine University Law School, Catholic University of America School of Law, and Southwestern University School of Law.
- Justice Brown has **dedicated all but two years of her twenty-six year legal career to public service** — serving as Legal Affairs Secretary to California Governor Pete Wilson, Deputy Secretary and General Counsel for the California Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency, Deputy Attorney General in the Office of the California Attorney General, and as Deputy Legislative Counsel in the California Legislative Counsel Bureau.
- Justice Brown has participated in a variety of statewide and community organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life for all citizens of California. She has served as a Member of the California Commission on the Status of African-American Males, as a Member of the Governor's Child Support Task Force, and as a Member of the Community Learning Advisory Board of the Rio Americano High School. Justice Brown has also taught adult Sunday school at the Cordova Church of Christ for more than 10 years.

Filibuster Timeline

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| 7/25/2003 | Nominated to U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit by President Bush |
| 11/6/2003 | Passed out of Senate Judiciary Committee with favorable recommendation |
| 11/14/2003 | Democrats refused to allow vote on nomination (cloture denied 53-43) |

In The Press

“Quotable fun on Cornyn's Web site: Interactive item invites browsers to guess which senators said what,” By Samantha Levine, Houston Chronicle May 1, 2005

WASHINGTON - The Senate is considered the more formal house of Congress, but it often doesn't seem that way.

Take the new interactive game called "Name That Speaker" that Don Stewart, spokesman for Republican U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, began last week.

Stewart has built an arsenal of quotes culled from 13 years of congressional records showing Democrats speaking out against the filibuster, which the minority party uses to slow down actions of the majority.

In Cornyn's game, quotes are posted on his Web site (cornyn.senate.gov/namethatspeaker), and political Webheads guess who said them.

Stewart has about 60 quotes ready to go. The ones he used in the inaugural week were uttered by Sens. Tom Harkin of Iowa, Barbara Boxer of California, Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and Patrick Leahy of Vermont.

Cornyn said the Web postings are "informative and use humor" to make a point.

But does he think the Democrats involved find it funny?

"I don't know," he said. "You'd have to ask them."